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PIC/D-16-61
6 February 1961

MEMORANDUM FOR: Acting Chief, DPD-DD/P

SUBJECT: Performance Evaluation of the PIC Minicard Installation

1. Under Contract EQ-1806 a set of Minicard equipment was procured for OCR and another for PIC. The PIC set has been in general operation since the summer of 1959 and recently the OCR set was transferred to PIC where its components are being integrated into an enlarged system. This system provides for the rapid retrieval of a large volume of photography for comparison purposes. As such it is an integral part of the data handling process and is considered an indispensable element in terms of the utilization of available manpower.

2. The original design of the Minicard equipment has basically been fulfilled. It is recognized that the Minicard equipment we acquired under this contract was actually a prototype developed to meet existing urgent requirements. The equipment produced unquestionably was the best of its kind in existence at that time and in our opinion represented the best efforts of the manufacturer considering the pressures from the Agency to push the state of the art. We currently are modifying the equipment to meet more sophisticated requirements; with advancements in the state of the art more changes are visualized.

3. Considering the foregoing, the absence of any direct participation on our part in contract administration and the intended reliance on Minicard in future operations of PIC we have no objection to a reasonable additional payment to the contractor in final settlement provided that such a payment is permissible under terms of the contract.

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